29. (Previously Presented) A respiratory mask according to claim 28, wherein the mask frame includes a front wall portion defining a forward end of the mask frame, the front wall portion having a circular gas inlet aperture configured to connect to a gas delivery conduit, the mask frame including a pair of inclined side wall portions and a base portion, each of the side wall portions and the base portion having a portion thereof connected to the front wall portion.

30. (Previously Presented) A respiratory mask according to claim 29, wherein the mask frame includes a rim at rear edges of the inclined side wall portions and the base portion. the rim defining a rearward end of the mask frame and being configured to allow a cushion to be attached thereto.

31. (Previously Presented) A respiratory mask according to claim 29, wherein each of the female connector portions includes a generally oblong slot, each generally oblong slot being formed by a first wall structure that is disposed between respective side wall portions and the base portion, a pair of parallel spaced opposing wall structures extending generally perpendicularly from the first wall structure and a second wall structure extending between and connected to the pair of spaced opposing wall structures, the second wall structure being spaced from and generally parallel to the first wall structure, each of the first and second wall structures and the pair of spaced opposing wall structures having an inward end portion and an outward end portion defining a direction that extends generally radially outwardly relative to the circular gas inlet aperture, the outward end portions defining the generally oblong slot therebetween.

32. (Previously Presented) A respiratory mask according to claim 31, wherein the second wall structure includes at least one recess extending therethrough configured to cooperate and receive the at least one resiliently biased locking element of the respective male connector portions, the at least one recess being formed adjacent each generally oblong slot.

33. (Previously Presented) A respiratory mask assembly comprising:

a headgear structure including at least one elongate strap, each end of the elongate strap being doubled over to form a loop;

a pair of male connector portions attached to the elongate strap, each of the male connector portions including a trailing portion that has a pair of spaced side portions and a cross bar extending transversely therebetween to define a strap receiving aperture configured to allow the strap to pass therethrough so that the crossbar is disposed within the loop of the strap, each of the male connector portions also including a leading portion that has a pair of longitudinally extending side beams spaced slightly inwardly from the side portions, the leading portion including a cross piece extending between the side beams and defining a leading edge of the male connector portion, the leading portion of each male connector portion also including a cantilevered member extending from an intermediate portion of the cross piece toward the trailing portion of the male connector portion, the cantilevered member being movable between deflected and undeflected positions and being resiliently biased toward the undeflected position, the cantilevered member including a locking element extending outwardly therefrom, the locking element being positioned on the cantilevered member generally spaced from the cross piece, the leading portion of each male connector portion including a ridge structure adjacent the trailing portion and extending generally perpendicularly relative to the side beams;